

Dear Ms. Saulters,

I'm writing to express my interest in becoming a member of the Somerville Human Rights Commission. I moved to Somerville from Jamaica Plain in 2023, and am excited about the diversity and vibrancy of the city. I'd love to contribute to maintaining and strengthening Somerville's rich social fabric.

By way of background, I'm an immigrant from Pakistan and moved to the US with my family when I was four. I grew up primarily in Brookline and completed all my education in the Boston area. I'm currently working in the field of healthcare consulting, while also serving on two nonprofit boards for organizations outside Boston. My board service includes a relief agency that raises funds for both international and domestic initiatives as well as an Islamic educational institution.

In the past I have played leadership roles in anti-racism and interfaith dialogue initiatives in the Greater Boston area such as the Citywide Dialogues on Race and Ethnicity and the Boston Center for Community and Justice, both of which were later subsumed under the YW of Boston. I've also participated in interfaith dialogues in the Boston Area in collaboration with various organizations.

I hope to have an opportunity to work with the Human Rights Commission.

Sincerely,

Salma Kazmi